Rev.d Mr. Bowden
965 From the Author
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A

FORM

OF

PUBLIC PRAYER

FOR

THE LORD's DAY.

To be uſed either Morning or Evening.

Let the Miniſter begin with the following addreſs to the People.

O COME let us worſhip before JEHOVAH our Maker; for our God is very great; he is cloathed with honour and majeſty. Let us come before his preſence with thankſgiving; for the Lord is good, his mercy is everlaſting, and his truth endureth to all generations.

God is a Spirit, and they who worſhip him muſt worſhip in ſpirit and in truth. If we regard iniquity in our hearts, the Lord will not hear us.

PEOPLE.

We will praiſe thee, O God, with our whole hearts, and will call upon thy name in the congregation.

Then let the following addreſs of Praiſe and Thankſgiving be recited by the miniſter and people alternately.

MINISTER.

O thou whoſe name alone is JEHOVAH, the Creator, the Preſerver, and the Governor of all things; by thy word were the heavens made, and all the hoſt of them. Of old haſt thou laid the foundations of the earth, and given to the ſeas thy decree, that the waters ſhould not paſs thy command. Thou ſaidſt, let there be light, and there was light. All beings were created by thee; and thou upholdeſt all things by thy power.

Let all the earth fear the Lord, for he ſpake, and it was done; he commanded, and all things were created.

MINISTER.

Almighty and moſt high God, who liveſt and reigneſt for ever. All angels, authorities, and powers above, are ſubject unto thee; and thou ruleſt in the kingdoms of men. Thou increaſeſt the nations, and deſtroyeſt them. Thou art the King of kings, and the Lord of lords. Thou killeſt, and thou makeſt alive. Thou woundeſt, and thou healeſt. Thou bringeſt low, and lifteſt up. Thou giveſt wiſdom to the wiſe, and ſtrength to the mighty. By thine appointment, ſeed-time and harveſt, ſummer and winter, day and night, ceaſe not. All things obey thine ordinances.

PEOPLE.

PEOPLE.

Jehovah reigneth, let the earth rejoice.

MINISTER.

Righteous Father, we thank thee, that thine eternal power and divine perfection are manifeſted in our own frame, and in the creation around us. And we magnify thee for good men and prophets whom thou haſt raiſed up in paſt ages, to teach mankind the knowledge of religion and virtue, and to perſuade them to the practice of it. We praiſe thee that thou didſt graciouſly ſeparate a peculiar people to the worſhip of the one only living and true God, to whom thou didſt declare thyſelf merciful, abundant in goodneſs and truth, and by no means clearing the guilty. And glory be to the God and Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, that, in the fulneſs of time, he appeared to bring life and immortality to the cleareſt light, and to bleſs mankind by turning them from their iniquities. We thank thee for the proofs he gave that God was with him, by the miracles which he wrought, by the prophecies which he uttered and fulfilled, by the purity of his doctrines, the perfection of his precepts, and his excellent example. We praiſe thee that, after being made perfect by his ſufferings, crucifixion, and death, he was declared to be the Meſſiah of God, with power, by his reſurrection from the grave. We magnify thee, that when he had ſhewed himſelf alive after this, by many infallible proofs, he was taken up into heaven,

and ſet on the right hand of God, who hath made him head over all things to the church. And we adore thee that thou haſt appointed a day in which thou wilt judge the world in righteouſneſs by him, and render unto all men according to their deeds.

PEOPLE.

O the depth of the riches both of the wiſdom and goodneſs of God!

MINISTER.

We humbly pray, O Lord, that all thine abundant goodneſs to us, [**and to any who deſire now to preſent their thankſgivings for particular mercies granted unto them*] may deeply impreſs our hearts, and have an abiding influence upon our lives. May the various powerful and perſuaſive motives to religion and virtue which are preſented to us in the ſcriptures, produce their genuine effect upon us, by freeing our minds from the power and dominion of all iniquity, and by engaging us to live ſoberly, righteouſly, and piouſly, in the world. Profeſſing to be riſen with Chriſt from the death of ſin, to the life of righteouſneſs, may we, by patient continuance in well-doing, ſeek for glory, honour, and immortality, that when Chriſt, who is our life, ſhall appear, we alſo may appear with him in glory, and receive the end of our faith, even our everlaſting ſalvation. *Amen.*†

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* To be uſed only when any deſire to return public praiſe.

† *Amen* is always to be ſpoken by the *people*.

MINISTER.

MINISTER.

Now to the Supreme Ruler of ages and diſpenſations, the immortal, inviſible, and only wiſe God, be honour and glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Then let the Miniſter read the Firſt Leſſon *out of the* Old Teſtament.

A Pſalm or Hymn is to be ſung after the Leſſon.

Then let the Miniſter and People recite the Lord's Prayer, and a Paraphraſe of it, in the following manner.

MINISTER.

We thank thee, O Lord of heaven and earth, that thou haſt directed us by Jeſus Chriſt, to pray unto thee as our Father. Thou didſt at firſt give us life, and didſt endue us with underſtanding. Thou haſt granted us dominion over the works of thy hands. By thy paternal care, all our wants are ſupplied. And in thee we continually live, and move, and have our being. We rejoice that all events are under the direction of thy fatherly providence, and that nothing can befal any of us without thy permiſſion. Great is thy goodneſs towards thoſe who fear thee. And thou art ſlow to anger, and plenteous in mercy, to thy ſinful and diſobedient children, and wilt abundantly pardon thoſe who forſake their iniquities, and turn unto thee. And we praiſe thee for all the means which thou haſt granted unto mankind by Jeſus Chriſt, for the attainment of thy favour and everlaſting ſalvation.

vation. Give us, we beſeech thee, O God, a due ſenſe of our manifold obligations unto thee. And may we always maintain ſuch filial love and dutifulneſs towards thee, as that we may delight to do the will, and to imitate the perfections, of our heavenly Father, that ſo we may be admitted into thy family and preſence in the world to come.

PEOPLE.

Our Father, who art in heaven.

MINISTER.

Who, by ſearching, can find out the Moſt High? Great and wonderful are thy works, Lord God Almighty, juſt and true are thy ways, thou King of nations. Who ſhould not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou ~~only~~ alone art holy; thou art the only wiſe God; and there is none good but thee. Thou art exalted above all bleſſing and praiſe, for the whole earth is full of thy glory, and the hoſt of heaven worſhippeth thee.

O thou who ſearcheſt all hearts, diſpoſe us and all mankind, we beſeech thee, to manifeſt our reverence of thy perfections, by endeavouring rightly to know thee the only true God, and by maintaining ſuch a ſenſe of thy continual preſence with us, as will engage us to love and ſerve thee at all times. May we ſpeak forth thy praiſe. May we worſhip thee in ſpirit and in truth. Whether we eat or drink, or whatſoever we do in the common conduct of life, may we do all to thy glory.

PEOPLE.

PEOPLE.

Hallowed be thy name.

Here let the following Pſalm of Praiſe, taken from the 145th Pſalm, be recited by the Miniſter, excepting the laſt verſe, which is to be read by the People.

WE will extol thee our God, O King, and we will bleſs thy Name for ever and ever.

Every day will we bleſs thee, and we will praiſe thy name for ever and ever.

Great is Jehovah, and greatly to be praiſed, and his greatneſs is unſearchable.

One generation ſhall praiſe thy works to another, and ſhall declare thy mighty acts.

We will ſpeak of the glorious honour of thy majeſty, and of thy wondrous works.

All thy works ſhall praiſe thee, O Lord, and thy ſaints ſhall bleſs thee.

They ſhall ſpeak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power.

Thy kingdom is an everlaſting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

The Lord is holy in all his ways, and bountiful in all his works.

And men ſhall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodneſs, and ſhall ſing of thy righteouſneſs.

The Lord is gracious and full of compaſſion, ſlow to anger, and of great mercy.

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The Lord is good to all, and his tender mercies are over all his works.

The eyes of all wait upon thee, and thou giveſt them their meat in due ſeaſon.

Thou openeſt thine hand, and ſatisfieſt the deſire of every living thing.

The Lord is nigh unto all thoſe who call upon him in truth.

PEOPLE.

Our mouths ſhall ſpeak the praiſe of Jehovah, and let all fleſh bleſs his holy name for ever and ever.

Then let the Miniſter read a Leſſon *out of the* New Teſtament.

After the Leſſon, proceed with the interceſſory Petitions in the Lord's Prayer, as follows.

MINISTER.

Moſt gracious and ever-bleſſed God, We pray that all thy reaſonable creatures may own their allegiance to thee, and become the willing ſubjects of thy government. May the inward power of true religion be more felt in the hearts, and more manifeſted in the lives of men. May the goſpel be continually ſpreading more and more throughout the world, 'till all mankind ſhall acknowledge Jeſus as Meſſiah. And may the pure knowledge, and the genuine fruits of Chriſtianity, appear more in thoſe who profeſs it. May we, and all the diſciples of Chriſt, be truly humble,

humble, ſincere, and holy. In every relation and condition of life, may we do unto others as we could reaſonably deſire they ſhould do to us, on a change of circumſtances. And may we love God with our whole hearts, and keep all his commandments continually.

May oppreſſion and ignorance, perſecution and war, vice and profaneneſs of every kind, ceaſe from the earth. And, in thy due time, may all nations be bleſſed with the prevalence of pure religion and virtue, knowledge and liberty, peace and good order.

PEOPLE.

Thy kingdom come.

MINISTER.

O thou righteous Governor of all worlds, may thy laws, which are always wiſe, and juſt, and good, ever be duly obeyed. May the whole human race ſerve thee with perfect hearts, and with willing minds. May their obedience be like the perfect obedience of the ſpirits above.

May all mankind endeavour, ~~in their ſeveral departments~~, to advance the ſchemes of thy benevolent government, by acting with fidelity in the ~~ſta~~ several conditions and circumſtances which thou haſt allotted unto them. *Amen.*

As in heaven, angels who excel in ſtrength do thy commandments, hearkening to the voice of thy word, ſo may thoſe who are entruſted with power and

and dominion in this world, be miniſters of God to thy people for good. We humbly pray that all earthly rulers and governors, and thy ſervant George our King, may be ſenſible of their dependance upon thee, and may faithfully diſcharge the duties of the high ſtations in which they are placed. May they be endued with wiſdom to know what is for the general welfare. And, in imitation of thy benevolence, may they ever be diſpoſed to conſult and ſecure the rights and happineſs of all mankind. *Amen.*

May the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family, adorn their ~~high ſtations~~ rank by their diſtinguiſhed virtues, and be eminently uſeful to the world. *Amen.*

We earneſtly beſeech thee in behalf of all Lawgivers and Magiſtrates, of every ~~rank and~~ degree, that they may conſider themſelves as the ſtewards of heaven, who muſt one day render an account of their behaviour. And may thy pure and holy law be the rule of their conduct, and the guide of their ſchemes and conſultations. *Amen.*

We pray, O God, that all Chriſtian miniſters may ſincerely endeavour rightly to underſtand thy holy word. And may they ſo explain it to others as to bring them to the firm belief, and the unaffected practice, of the truth, as it is in the goſpel of Jeſus. And, by their own lives and converſations, may they

manifeſt the excellence of the religion which they teach. *Amen.*

May thoſe who are intruſted with the education of youth, be careful to furniſh their minds with thoſe qualities that ſhall fit them for uſefulneſs in the world, and for obtaining thy favour. And incline youth to receive inſtruction with teachable and well-diſpoſed tempers. *Amen.*

We humbly offer up our ſupplications unto thee the Father of mercies, for all our fellow-creatures who are afflicted in body, mind, or outward condition, [*eſpecially for any in behalf of whom our prayers are deſired.**] May they be patient and reſigned to thine appointments, and in thy due time, may they be delivered from their ſufferings; and may the preſent diſtreſs be a means of cheriſhing and increaſing thoſe pious and virtuous diſpoſitions and habits that will prepare them for everlaſting happineſs.

Let thoſe who ſuffer according to thy will, in the cauſe of truth, religion, and virtue, commit themſelves unto thee, as to a faithful Creator, in well-doing; and with hope and fortitude may they rely upon thy promiſes to all thoſe who ſerve thee in ſincerity. *Amen.*

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* To be uſed only when any requeſt the Prayers of the Congregation.

cumſtances,

May we and thy whole rational offspring cheerfully reſign ourſelves to thy diſpoſal. Whatever circumſtances thou ſeeſt good to allot for us in this world, whether proſperous or adverſe, may it be our care to maintain, amidſt all the changes of human life, ſuch tempers and ſuch conduct as thou ſhalt approve.

May thy pleaſure ever be executed, and thine appointments be readily acquieſced in by all thy creatures, in every rank and ſituation in which thy providence has placed them.

PEOPLE.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Here let the Miniſter read another Leſſon, *out of the* New Teſtament, *on the* Duties *of Chriſtians.*

MINISTER.

O thou who knoweſt what we ſtand in need of before we aſk it, we humbly beſeech thee graciouſly to ſupply our conſtantly returning wants. We would not be too anxious for the morrow. We would not fix our hearts upon the goods of this world. We would gratefully own our dependance upon thee, and would intreat only that portion of the bleſſings of life, for ourſelves and for others, which thy wiſdom and goodneſs ſhall ſee fit to beſtow.

PEOPLE.

Give us this day our daily bread.

MINISTER.

MINISTER.

Holy Father, we acknowledge that we do not merit any of thy favours; for with ſhame and remorſe we muſt confeſs, that we have already too much neglected and abuſed thy goodneſs. In many things have we all offended. In thy ſight, O Lord, ſhall no man living be juſtified. But we are truly ſorry for our paſt guilt and ingratitude; for every inſtance in which we have tranſgreſſed thy moſt righteous and holy laws, in thought, in word, or in deed. And we now ſincerely deſire and reſolve to forſake every evil way. With penitent and contrite hearts, we would earneſtly implore thy pardon of our many and aggravated ſins. And we willingly preſent this requeſt, with that forgiving temper towards thoſe who have offended us, which thou requireſt of all thoſe who would obtain thy mercy.

PEOPLE.

Forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive thoſe who treſpaſs againſt us.

MINISTER.

Suffer us not, O God, to be tempted beyond what we may be able to reſiſt, but, with the temptation, may there be a way for us to eſcape the evil influence of it. May we not indulge in thoſe thoughts, deſires, or evil communications with others, that corrupt good morals, and become not the doctrine which is according to godlineſs. May neither our own paſſions, nor the outward inticements or difficulties

culties that may aſſault us, lead us into ſin. Deliver us, merciful Father, we beſeech thee, from all pride, vanity, and ſelfiſhneſs; from ſloth, envy, and diſcontent; from malice and evil ſpeaking; from injuſtice and uncharitableneſs; and from all impiety, profaneneſs, and hypocriſy. By all the trials which thy frail creatures meet with in this life, way we be more eſtabliſhed and improved in thoſe tempers and habits that will fit us for thy heavenly kingdom.

PEOPLE.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

MINISTER.

We humbly offer up theſe our adorations and requeſts, for ourſelves, and for all mankind, unto thee, O God, for thou alone art poſſeſſed of thoſe perfections that demand our religious confidence and homage. Thy wiſe and benevolent government is univerſal and unchangeable. Thou doeſt according to thy will in the army of heaven, and throughout all worlds. And unto thee is the glory of unrivalled perfection due, from all whom thou haſt made capable of worſhipping thee. While our being endures, therefore, we would celebrate thy praiſe. And let every creature bleſs thy holy name, throughout all ages.

PEOPLE.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.

MINISTER.

MINISTER.

From our hearts we preſent theſe our praiſes and ſupplications, beſeeching thee to accept our ſincere worſhip, as the diſciples of Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

Here let a Pſalm *or* Hymn *be ſung.*
Then the Sermon.
After this a Pſalm *or* Hymn *is to be ſung.*
Then let the Miniſter either read a Prayer of his own, or the following concluding Prayer.

ALMIGHTY and ever-bleſſed God; We praiſe thee that we are made capable of joining with our fellow-creatures in ſocial prayer, and united acts of devotion to thee. And we thank thee for all the opportunities of public worſhip with which we are favoured. May we experience that an attendance upon it, increaſes our religious knowledge, eſtabliſhes our faith in the truths of the goſpel, and improves every pious and praiſe-worthy temper and habit.

O may we not dare to appear before God as his people, to hear his word, without obeying it; but may we manifeſt by our lives and converſations, that the principles which we publicly avow, are deeply impreſſed on our hearts.

Thus by aſſembling together to contemplate and adore the great ſource of all good, and to learn his will, may we be fitted for offering, in a future world, a more

a more perfect homage and ſervice than our preſent frailty will admit.

We humbly preſent theſe our prayers, truſting in the tender mercy of our God, manifeſted by Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

MINISTER.

May the God of all goodneſs, who has called us to his eternal glory by Chriſt Jeſus, make us perfect, eſtabliſh, ſtrengthen, ſettle us. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. *Amen.*

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THE END

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